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Customer No.:

Docket No.: 2309/0J753

07278

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Satoshi MIZUTANI et al.

Serial No.: 09/940,711

Confirmation No.: 5768

Filed: August 27, 2001

For: ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING FIBROUS LAYER ON SURFACE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is



FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

SHEET 1 OF 1
(REV. 7-80)

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TC 1700

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

DOCKET NO.:
APPLICANT:2309/0J753
Satoshi MIZUTANISERIAL NO: 09/940,711
FILING DATE: August 27, 2001
CONFIRMATION NO: 5768**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER <u>INITIALS</u>	DOCUMENT <u>NUMBER</u>	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	1. 4,634,440	01/06/87	Widlund et al.	604	383	05/14/85

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER <u>INITIALS</u>	DOCUMENT <u>NUMBER</u>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION <u>YES</u> <u>NO</u>
	2. EP0792629A2	09/03/97	Europe	A61F	13/15	
	3. WO93/09741	05/27/93	PCT	A61F	13/15	

**OTHER REFERENCES
(INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)***EXAMINER
INITIALS

4. European Search Report dated 12/27/01

EXAMINER: _____ DATE CONSIDERED: _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

The undersigned is also enclosing herewith a copy of a Search Report issued 12/27/01 for the European counterpart of the present patent application (Application No. 01307407.5-2314), in which the presently disclosed references were cited. Since a translation of the Search Report is also enclosed, or the Search Report utilizes conventional codes to characterize each cited reference, it is believed that the applicants in the above-identified patent application have now met the "concise explanation" requirement of 37 C.F.R. 1.98.

This submission is filed before a first action on the merits has been mailed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art.

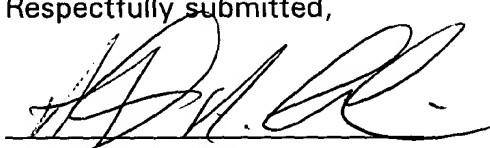
No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

It is believed that no fee is due. However, if the Commissioner determines that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above deposit account for any deficiency.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Dated: April 2, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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Serial No. 09/940,711

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